

VIA Express Mail EL629489975US  
PATENT  
90606.51/ta

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re. application of: Nobuo HARA	International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/011249
Serial No.: unknown	International Filing Date: August 5, 2004
Filed: concurrently herewith	
For: VEHICLE	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, and in recognition of his duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office relevant information known to be material to patentability, Applicant herewith submits copies of the prior art listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. The prior art references Nos. 1-3 are cited in the attached International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/JP2004/011249. The prior art reference no. 4 is an additional reference that applicant submits herewith.

The relevance of the prior art references Nos. 1, 3, and 4 is discussed on pages 1 and 2 of the Substitute Specification filed concurrently herewith.

The relevance of the prior art reference Nos. 1-3 can be found in the English translation of the International Search Report attached hereto.

The statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the disclosed references be made of record in the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 15, 2005

  
Attorneys for Applicant

Joseph R. Keating  
Registration No. 37,368

Christopher A. Bennett  
Registration No. 46,710

Peter Medley  
Registration No. 56,125

KEATING & BENNETT LLP  
10400 Eaton Place, Suite 312  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
Telephone: (703) 385-5200  
Facsimile: (703) 385-5080

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor <b>Nobuo HARA</b>	
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	<b>1</b>	of	<b>1</b>	Attorney Docket Number <b>90606.51/ta</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM -YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code*Number-Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	<b>1</b>	<b>JP 2000-140190</b> (with English Abstract and machine translation)	<b>05-2000</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>		<b>X</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>JP 10-211313</b> (with English Abstract and machine translation)	<b>08-1998</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>		<b>X</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>JP 10-023613</b> (with English Abstract and machine translation)	<b>01-1998</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>		<b>X</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>JP 2003-237670</b> (with English Abstract and machine translation)	<b>08-2003</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>		<b>X</b>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether of not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 If possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Abstract is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.